Medical and Scientific Instruments Developed by CSIO

481. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD: DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the salient features of the medical instruments, geoscientific instruments, instruments for environmental monitoring, robotics and process control, developed by the Central Scientific Instruments Organisation;

(b) whetehr these instruments have become popular and are being widely used; and

(c) what is the future programme for development of such instruments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGENDER K. ALAGH): (a) the salient features of the instruments developed by CSIO are as follows:

* Medical Instruments: Low cost instruments required by primary and district level health centres

* Geo-scientific Instruments: Cost effective instruments for use in seismic and land-slides studies

* Environment Instruments: Appropriate instruments for field measurement of dust and vehicular pollution

* Process Control Instruments: Ultrasonics based flow meters for measurement of flow in pipes

* Robotics: Ultrasonic sensors

(b) The know-how for the production of some of the instruments has been licensed to industry and are being commercially sold; While some others were tailor-made to user demands.

(c) Some of the instruments to be taken up for development are: Blood Gas Analyser, Low cost Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Auto Analyser, Instrumentation for Fisheries, Polymer based sensors for environmental monitoring, instruments for condition monitoring for power plants etc.

Power shortage in Gujarat

482. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Gujarat is facing acute power shortage;

(b) whether there is any plan of NTPC to establish imported coal based power projects on the coast-line of Saurashtra or Kutch; and

(c) if so, by when the project is likely to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Gujarat faced an energy shortage of 8.6% during April-May,1996 as against the average of 6.3% in the Western Region and an All India average of 11.3%.

(b) and (c) At present NTPC does not have any plan to establish imported coal based power projects on the coast line of Saurashtra or Kutch.

Expansion of Food Processing Industries

483. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whetehr Government are considering expansion of Food Processing Industries in the country, particularly in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) how many multinationals and other foreign firms have shown interest in setting up Food Processing Industries in Madhya Pradesh, with details thereof; and

(d) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR

RAY): (a) to (d) Ministry of Food Processing Industries do not set up any food processing unit directly in any State. Moreover, food processing industries except brewing and distillation of alcoholic beverages and those items reserved for small scale sector are delicensed and the entrepreneurs are only to file Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda. However, approvals are granted in case of industries where industrial licence are required for 100% Export Oriented Units or for Foreign Collaboration and Foreign equity investments. Since liberalisation till March, 1996, 321 Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda (IEMs) involving an investment of Rs. 2939 crores and an employment of 48,279 persons have been filed for setting up food processing industries in Madhya Pradesh. Out of these 64 projects have been implemented involving an investment of Rs. 396 crores.

Applications for Foreign/NRI equity investments as well as for industrial licenses or 100% Export Oriented Units are dealt with expeditiously.

Since liberalisation 24 such approvals have been granted for Madhya Pradesh involving a total project cost of Rs. 416 crores including foreign investment of Rs. 26 crores.

पेट्रोमेक्स की बिक्री

484. **श्रीमती मालती शर्मा:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि आजकल पेट्रोमेक्स (गैस की लालटेन) की बिक्री बड़े पैमाने पर हो रही है जिसके परिणामस्वरूप रसोई गैस की कालाबाजारी हो रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने पेट्रोमेक्स की अवैध बिक्री पर रोक लगाने के लिए कोई कार्यवाही की है ताकि रसोई गैस की कालाबाजारी रोकी जा सके;

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री टी॰आर॰ बालू): (क) से (घ) फरवरी, 1993 के दौरान सरकार ने समानांतर विपणन योजना के अधीन निजी उद्यमियों को उनके निजी नेटवर्क के माध्यम से बाजार निर्धारित मूल्यों पर एल पी जी का आयात तथा विपणन करने के लिए अनुमति दे दी थी। सार्वजनिक तेल कंपनियों से विपथन करके एल पी जी का पेट्रोमेक्स (गैस लालटेनों) में उपयोग किए जाने के संबंध में कोई शिकायत प्राप्त नहीं हुई है। तथापि, तेल कंपनियां विभिन्न स्तरों पर अपने डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरों का नियमित रूप से निरीक्षण करती हैं। यदि किसी वितरक को घरेलू गैस का विपथन किसी अन्य प्रयोजनों के लिए करते हुए पाया जाता है तो गलती करने वाले वितरक के विरुद्ध विपणन अनुशासन दिशानिर्देश के अधीन कार्रवाई आरंभ की जाती है।

तथापि, यह समझा जाता है कि कुछ निजी क्षेत्र की कंपनियां विभिन्न पेट्रोलियम ईंधनों पर आधारित पेट्रोमेक्सों की बिक्री कर रही हैं, जिसके लिए वे संभवतः संबंधित प्राधिकारियों से आवश्यक अनुमोदन प्राप्त कर चुके हों।

Problems of Unemployment and backwardness in rural areas

485. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to launch any new scheme to find solution to the problems of unemployment and backwardness in the rural areas in the country particularly in Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (d) Integrated Rural Develpoment Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) are the major on going programmes being implemented by the centre to eradicate unemployment and backwardness in varoius States including Punjab. There is, however, no proposal to launch new scheme/programme in the States.